Case 16-14051 Doc 1 Filed 04/25/16 Entered 04/25/16 15:57:06 Desc Main Document Page 1 of 17

Fill in this information to identify your case:		
United States Bankruptcy Court for the:		
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS	-	
Case number (if known)	_ Chapter you are filing under:	
	☐ Chapter 7	
	☐ Chapter 11	
	☐ Chapter 12	
	■ Chapter 13	Check if this an amended filing

Official Form 101

Voluntary Petition for Individuals Filing for Bankruptcy

12/15

The bankruptcy forms use you and Debtor 1 to refer to a debtor filing alone. A married couple may file a bankruptcy case together—called a *joint case*—and in joint cases, these forms use you to ask for information from both debtors. For example, if a form asks, "Do you own a car," the answer would be yes if either debtor owns a car. When information is needed about the spouses separately, the form uses *Debtor 1* and *Debtor 2* to distinguish between them. In joint cases, one of the spouses must report information as *Debtor 1* and the other as *Debtor 2*. The same person must be *Debtor 1* in all of the forms.

Be as complete and accurate as possible. If two married people are filing together, both are equally responsible for supplying correct information. If more space is needed, attach a separate sheet to this form. On the top of any additional pages, write your name and case number (if known). Answer every question.

Pai	rt 1: Identify Yourself		
		About Debtor 1:	About Debtor 2 (Spouse Only in a Joint Case):
1.	Your full name		
Write the name that is on your government-issued picture identification (for	Anthony First name	Beatriz First name	
	example, your driver's license or passport).	Middle name	Middle name
	Bring your picture identification to your meeting with the trustee.	Dowdell Last name and Suffix (Sr., Jr., II, III)	Dowdell Last name and Suffix (Sr., Jr., II, III)
	meeting with the trustee.		
2.	All other names you have used in the last 8 years		
	Include your married or maiden names.		
3.	Only the last 4 digits of your Social Security number or federal Individual Taxpayer Identification number (ITIN)	xxx-xx-0224	xxx-xx-1053

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Debtor 1 Anthony Dowdell Beatriz Dowdell

Case number (if known)

		About Debtor 1:	About Debtor 2 (Spouse Only in a Joint Case):		
4.	Any business names and Employer Identification Numbers (EIN) you have used in the last 8 years Include trade names and doing business as names	■ I have not used any business name or EINs. Business name(s) EINs	■ I have not used any business name or EINs. Business name(s) EINs		
5.	Where you live	19821 Brook Ave Chicago Heights, IL 60411 Number, Street, City, State & ZIP Code Cook County	If Debtor 2 lives at a different address: Number, Street, City, State & ZIP Code County		
		If your mailing address is different from the one above, fill it in here. Note that the court will send any notices to you at this mailing address.	If Debtor 2's mailing address is different from yours, fill it in here. Note that the court will send any notices to this mailing address.		
		Number, P.O. Box, Street, City, State & ZIP Code	Number, P.O. Box, Street, City, State & ZIP Code		
6.	Why you are choosing this district to file for bankruptcy	Check one: Over the last 180 days before filing this petition, I have lived in this district longer than in any other district. I have another reason. Explain. (See 28 U.S.C. § 1408.)	Check one: Over the last 180 days before filing this petition, I have lived in this district longer than in any other district. □ I have another reason. Explain. (See 28 U.S.C. § 1408.)		

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Deb	otor 2 Beatriz Dowdell					Case number (if known)	
Par	t 2: Tell the Court About	Your Bankı	uptcy Ca	ase			
7.	The chapter of the Bankruptcy Code you are	Check one. (For a brief description of each, see Notice Required by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b) for Individuals Filing for Bankruptcy (Form 2010)). Also, go to the top of page 1 and check the appropriate box.					
	choosing to file under	☐ Chapte	er 7				
		☐ Chapte	er 11				
		☐ Chapte	er 12				
		■ Chapt	er 13				
8.	How you will pay the fee	abo	ut how yo	ou may pay. Typically, if you a	re paying the fee	neck with the clerk's office in your local court for more details yourself, you may pay with cash, cashier's check, or money behalf, your attorney may pay with a credit card or check with	
				address.	, ,		
				y the fee in installments. If y ee <i>in Installment</i> s (Official Fori		ption, sign and attach the Application for Individuals to Pay	
		☐ I re	quest that is not rec	at my fee be waived (You ma	y request this op may do so only if	otion only if you are filing for Chapter 7. By law, a judge may, f your income is less than 150% of the official poverty line that	
						e in installments). If you choose this option, you must fill out Official Form 103B) and file it with your petition.	
9.	Have you filed for bankruptcy within the	■ No.					
	last 8 years?	☐ Yes.					
			District		When	Case number	
			District		When	Case number	
			District		When	Case number	
10.	Are any bankruptcy cases pending or being	■ No					
	filed by a spouse who is not filing this case with you, or by a business partner, or by an affiliate?	☐ Yes.					
			Debtor			Relationship to you	
			District		When	Case number, if known	
			Debtor			Relationship to you	
			District		When	Case number, if known	
11.	Do you rent your residence?	■ No.	Go to	line 12.			
	residence:	☐ Yes.	Has yo	our landlord obtained an evicti	on judgment aga	ainst you and do you want to stay in your residence?	
				No. Go to line 12.			
				Yes. Fill out <i>Initial Statemen</i> bankruptcy petition.	t About an Evictio	on Judgment Against You (Form 101A) and file it with this	

Debtor 1

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	otor 1 otor 2	Anthony Dowdell Beatriz Dowdell		Docum	Case number (if known)	
Par	t 3:	Report About Any Bu	sinesses	You Own as a Sole Propr	ietor	
12.		ou a sole proprietor y full- or part-time less?	■ No.	Go to Part 4.		
			☐ Yes.	Name and location of b	usiness	
	busing an ind separ as a d	e proprietorship is a ess you operate as dividual, and is not a ate legal entity such corporation, ership, or LLC.		Name of business, if ar	ny	
	If you sole p	have more than one proprietorship, use a late sheet and attach		Number, Street, City, S	tate & ZIP Code	
		nis petition.		Check the appropriate	box to describe your business:	
				☐ Health Care Bu	siness (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(27A))	
				☐ Single Asset Re	eal Estate (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51B))	
				☐ Stockbroker (as	defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(53A))	
				☐ Commodity Bro	ker (as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(6))	
				☐ None of the about	ove	
13.	Chap Bank	ou filing under ter 11 of the ruptcy Code and are small business	If you are filing under Chapter 11, the court must know whether you are a small business debtor so that it can set appropriate deadlines. If you indicate that you are a small business debtor, you must attach your most recent balance sheet, statement of operations, cash-flow statement, and federal income tax return or if any of these documents do not exist, follow the procedure in 11 U.S.C. 1116(1)(B).			
		definition of small	■ No.	I am not filing under Ch	apter 11.	
		ess debtor, see 11 c. § 101(51D).	□ No.	I am filing under Chapte Code.	er 11, but I am NOT a small business debtor according to the definition in the Bankruptcy	
			☐ Yes.	I am filing under Chapte	er 11 and I am a small business debtor according to the definition in the Bankruptcy Code.	
Par	t 4:	Report if You Own or	Have Anv	/ Hazardous Property or A	Any Property That Needs Immediate Attention	
14.	Do yo	ou own or have any	■ No.	. ,		
		erty that poses or is ed to pose a threat				
	of im ident	minent and ifiable hazard to	☐ Yes.	What is the hazard?		
	Or do	c health or safety? you own any erty that needs diate attention?		If immediate attention is needed, why is it needed?		
	perist livest or a b	xample, do you own nable goods, or ock that must be fed, nuilding that needs at repairs?		Where is the property?		
	J - · · ·				Number, Street, City, State & Zip Code	

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Debtor 1 Anthony Dowdell

Debtor 2 Beatriz Dowdell Case number (if known)

Part 5: Ex

Explain Your Efforts to Receive a Briefing About Credit Counseling

Tell the court whether you have received a briefing about credit counseling.

The law requires that you receive a briefing about credit counseling before you file for bankruptcy. You must truthfully check one of the following choices. If you cannot do so, you are not eligible to file.

If you file anyway, the court can dismiss your case, you will lose whatever filing fee you paid, and your creditors can begin collection activities again.

About Debtor 1:

You must check one:

I received a briefing from an approved credit counseling agency within the 180 days before I filed this bankruptcy petition, and I received a certificate of completion.

Attach a copy of the certificate and the payment plan, if any, that you developed with the agency.

I received a briefing from an approved credit counseling agency within the 180 days before I filed this bankruptcy petition, but I do not have a certificate of completion.

Within 14 days after you file this bankruptcy petition, you MUST file a copy of the certificate and payment plan, if any.

I certify that I asked for credit counseling services from an approved agency, but was unable to obtain those services during the 7 days after I made my request, and exigent circumstances merit a 30-day temporary waiver of the requirement.

To ask for a 30-day temporary waiver of the requirement, attach a separate sheet explaining what efforts you made to obtain the briefing, why you were unable to obtain it before you filed for bankruptcy, and what exigent circumstances required you to file this case.

Your case may be dismissed if the court is dissatisfied with your reasons for not receiving a briefing before you filed for bankruptcy. If the court is satisfied with your reasons, you must still receive a briefing within 30 days after you file. You must file a certificate from the approved agency, along with a copy of the payment plan you developed, if any. If you do not do so, your case may be dismissed.

Any extension of the 30-day deadline is granted only for cause and is limited to a maximum of 15 days.

 □ I am not required to receive a briefing about credit counseling because of:

☐ Incapacity.

I have a mental illness or a mental deficiency that makes me incapable of realizing or making rational decisions about finances.

Disability.

My physical disability causes me to be unable to participate in a briefing in person, by phone, or through the internet, even after I reasonably tried to do so.

☐ Active duty.

I am currently on active military duty in a military combat zone.

If you believe you are not required to receive a briefing about credit counseling, you must file a motion for waiver credit counseling with the court.

About Debtor 2 (Spouse Only in a Joint Case):

You must check one:

I received a briefing from an approved credit counseling agency within the 180 days before I filed this bankruptcy petition, and I received a certificate of completion.

Attach a copy of the certificate and the payment plan, if any, that you developed with the agency.

☐ I received a briefing from an approved credit counseling agency within the 180 days before I filed this bankruptcy petition, but I do not have a certificate of completion.

Within 14 days after you file this bankruptcy petition, you MUST file a copy of the certificate and payment plan, if any.

□ I certify that I asked for credit counseling services from an approved agency, but was unable to obtain those services during the 7 days after I made my request, and exigent circumstances merit a 30-day temporary waiver of the requirement.

To ask for a 30-day temporary waiver of the requirement, attach a separate sheet explaining what efforts you made to obtain the briefing, why you were unable to obtain it before you filed for bankruptcy, and what exigent circumstances required you to file this case.

Your case may be dismissed if the court is dissatisfied with your reasons for not receiving a briefing before you filed for bankruptcy.

If the court is satisfied with your reasons, you must still receive a briefing within 30 days after you file. You must file a certificate from the approved agency, along with a copy of the payment plan you developed, if any. If you do not do so, your case may be dismissed.

Any extension of the 30-day deadline is granted only for cause and is limited to a maximum of 15 days.

I am not required to receive a briefing about credit
counseling because of:

☐ Incapacity.

I have a mental illness or a mental deficiency that makes me incapable of realizing or making rational decisions about finances.

☐ Disability.

My physical disability causes me to be unable to participate in a briefing in person, by phone, or through the internet, even after I reasonably tried to do so.

☐ Active duty.

I am currently on active military duty in a military combat zone.

If you believe you are not required to receive a briefing about credit counseling, you must file a motion for waiver of credit counseling with the court. Case 16-14051 Doc 1 Filed 04/25/16 Entered 04/25/16 15:57:06 Desc Main Document Page 6 of 17

	tor 1 tor 2	Anthony Dowdell Beatriz Dowdell		Bocument	r age o c		umber (if knov	vn)	
Part	t 6:	Answer These Questi	ons for Re	porting Purposes					
	Wha	t kind of debts do have?	16a.	<u> </u>			defined in '	11 U.S.C. § 101(8) as "incurred by an	
			☐ No. Go to line 16b.						
				Yes. Go to line 17.					
			16b. Are your debts primarily business debts? <i>Business debts</i> are debts that you incurred to obtain money for a business or investment or through the operation of the business or investment.						
				☐ No. Go to line 16c.					
				☐ Yes. Go to line 17.					
			16c.	State the type of debts you owe th	nat are not consui	mer debts or bus	siness debts	S	
17.		ou filing under oter 7?	■ No.	I am not filing under Chapter 7. Go	o to line 18.				
	Do you estimate that after any exempt property is excluded and			l am filing under Chapter 7. Do yo are paid that funds will be availabl				excluded and administrative expenses	
administrative ex		nistrative expenses		□ No					
	be a	are paid that funds will be available for distribution to unsecured creditors?	ا	□ Yes					
18.		How many Creditors do you estimate that you	1 -49		□ 1,000-5,000 □ 5001-10,000			25,001-50,000	
	owe?			☐ 10,001-25,0			☐ 50,001-100,000 ☐ More than100,000		
19.	estin	much do you nate your assets to orth?	□ \$100,00	0,000 1 - \$100,000 01 - \$500,000 01 - \$1 million	\$1,000,001 \$10,000,002 \$50,000,002 \$100,000,002	1 - \$50 million	[[\$500,000,001 - \$1 billion \$1,000,000,001 - \$10 billion \$10,000,000,001 - \$50 billion More than \$50 billion	
20.	How	much do you	□ \$0 - \$50	0,000	□ \$1,000,001	- \$10 million		□ \$500,000,001 - \$1 billion	
	estin to be	nate your liabilities e?	\$50,00	1 - \$100,000	□ \$10,000,00°	1 - \$50 million		31,000,000,001 - \$10 billion	
			■ \$100,001 - \$500,000 □ \$500,001 - \$1 million		☐ \$50,000,001 - \$100 million ☐ \$100,000,001 - \$500 million			☐ \$10,000,000,001 - \$50 billion ☐ More than \$50 billion	
Part	t 7 :	Sign Below							
For	you		I have exa	mined this petition, and I declare u	under penalty of p	perjury that the in	nformation p	provided is true and correct.	
				nosen to file under Chapter 7, I am tes Code. I understand the relief a				Chapter 7, 11,12, or 13 of title 11, o proceed under Chapter 7.	
				ney represents me and I did not pa I have obtained and read the noti				orney to help me fill out this	
			I request re	elief in accordance with the chapte	er of title 11, Unite	ed States Code,	, specified in	n this petition.	
								erty by fraud in connection with a or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152, 1341, 1519,	
			/s/ Anthony	ony Dowdell		/s/ Beatriz D		_	
				of Debtor 1		Signature of D			
			Executed	April 21, 2016 MM / DD / YYYY		Executed on	April 21,		

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Dobtor 1	Anthony Dowdell	Document			
Debtor 1 Debtor 2	Beatriz Dowdell			Case number (if known)	
•	attorney, if you are ed by one	I, the attorney for the debtor(s) named in this under Chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 of title 11, Unifor which the person is eligible. I also certify	ted States Code, and ha	ive explained the relief a	available under each chapter
•	not represented by ey, you do not need spage.	and, in a case in which § 707(b)(4)(D) applies schedules filed with the petition is incorrect.			
		/s/ Andrew C. Marzan ARDC	Date	April 21, 2016	
		Signature of Attorney for Debtor		MM / DD / YYYY	
		Andrew C. Marzan ARDC			
		Printed name			
		Ledford, Wu & Borges, LLC			
		Firm name			
		105 W. Madison			
		23rd Floor			
		Chicago, IL 60602			
		Number, Street, City, State & ZIP Code			

Email address

notice@billbusters.com

Contact phone 312-853-0200

#6316313 Bar number & State Case 16-14051 Doc 1 Filed 04/25/16 Entered 04/25/16 15:57:06 Desc Main Document Page 8 of 17

B2030 (Form 2030) (12/15)

United States Bankruptcy CourtNorthern District of Illinois

In	Anthony Dowdell re Beatriz Dowdell		Case No.	
		Debtor(s)	Chapter	13
1.	DISCLOSURE OF COMPENS Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 329(a) and Fed. Bankr. P. 2016(b).			. ,
1.	compensation paid to me within one year before the filing of be rendered on behalf of the debtor(s) in contemplation of of	of the petition in bankruptcy	, or agreed to be paid	to me, for services rendered or to
				460.00
	Prior to the filing of this statement I have received		\$	460.00
	Balance Due		\$	0.00
2.	\$ of the filing fee has been paid.			
3.	The source of the compensation paid to me was:			
	■ Debtor □ Other (specify):			
4.	The source of compensation to be paid to me is:			
	■ Debtor □ Other (specify):			
5.	■ I have not agreed to share the above-disclosed compens	sation with any other person	unless they are mem	pers and associates of my law firm.
	☐ I have agreed to share the above-disclosed compensation copy of the agreement, together with a list of the names			
6.	In return for the above-disclosed fee, I have agreed to rende	er legal service for all aspec	ts of the bankruptcy c	ase, including:
	 a. Analysis of the debtor's financial situation, and renderin b. Preparation and filing of any petition, schedules, statem c. Representation of the debtor at the meeting of creditors d. [Other provisions as needed] Exemption planning; preparation and filing and filing of motions pursuant to 11 USC 5 	ent of affairs and plan which and confirmation hearing, a g of reaffirmation agree	h may be required; nd any adjourned hea ments and applicat	rings thereof;
7.	By agreement with the debtor(s), the above-disclosed fee de Representation of the debtors in any disch			proceeding.
		CERTIFICATION		
this	I certify that the foregoing is a complete statement of any as bankruptcy proceeding.	greement or arrangement fo	r payment to me for re	epresentation of the debtor(s) in
_	April 21, 2016	/s/ Andrew C. Ma		
	Date		an ARDC #6316313	
		Signature of Attorn Ledford, Wu & B		
		105 W. Madison	3 ,	
		23rd Floor Chicago, IL 6060	12	
		312-853-0200 Fa		
		notice@billbuste		
		Name of law firm		

BILLBUSTERS

Ledford, Wu and Borges, LLC

Attorneys at Law

(312)853-0200 Fax: (312)873-4693

ATTORNEY RETENTION CONTRACT

FOR OFFI	CE	USE	(1	3)	allo Pola Sirakin
		4			
The second secon					_ `
Responsible at	tori	iey:_	4	m	_
CARA signed	? [Ż	N		

1. Parties. In this contract, "Client" means the undersigned, both individually and jointly; "Attorney" means	Ledford, Wu & Borges, LLC and
its staff attorneys. This contract shall supersede any prior contracts and agreements between the parties to the	
event of any inconsistency between this contract and a Court-Approved Retention Agreement, the latter	shall prevail.

1. I al ties. In this contract, Chefit incans the midersigned, both individually and jointly, Attorney incans Leutord, wit & borges, LLC and
its staff attorneys. This contract shall supersede any prior contracts and agreements between the parties to the extent of inconsistency. In the
event of any inconsistency between this contract and a Court-Approved Retention Agreement, the latter shall prevail.
2. Services: Client retains Attorney for the following services: Chapter 13 bankruptcy (debt adjustment)
3. Scope of Representation:

(a) Attorney will counsel and represent Client in all aspects of the above matter(s) for the fee specified in Paragraph 4 EXCEPT: (1) adversary proceedings; (2) post-discharge litigation; (3) appeals; (4) other (specify):

(b) Attorney may agree but is not obligated to represent Client in the above evaluded matters for an additional fa-

(b) Attorney may agree, but is not congated, to represent them in the above excluded matters for an additional fee, to be agreed upor
separately by the parties.
4. Fees:
Legal fee: \$_4900 - PLUS \$310 filing fee (court cost) (an additional Court-Approved Retention Agreement may apply)
Expenses: \$
TOTAL: \$ 4940 less retainer received: \$ 540 Fee balance: \$ 3540 To be paid by: C(1
The legal fee is an \square advance payment retainer \square security retainer \square classic retainer, and is a flat fee unless otherwise stated. Attorney
is unable to represent Client without receiving an advance payment retainer since a security retainer will be within the reach of Client's
creditors. Should hourly billing be necessary, Attorney's billing rates are \$300-\$400/hour for partners, \$250/hour for associates, and \$90/hou
for law clerks. The filing fee and expenses are subject to change at any time. The billing rates are subject to an annual review and potentia
increase every calendar year.

The legal fee covers the initial consultation and all subsequent work. The case may be closed if the fees are not paid by the deadline. Additional legal fees may apply if the parties have entered into a Court-Approved Retention Agreement and such Agreement so authorizes, or if the case is converted from one chapter to another. Additional court costs may apply for amending a petition, list, schedule or statement postfiling or other reasons not due to Attorney's fault. NSF checks will be assessed a \$20 fee.

5. Initial Consultation. Client acknowledges that Attorney has explained the following (please initial):

The options of Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 and that Client has made the choice identified in Paragraph 2

The concepts of exemption, discharge and dischargeability, and pre-filing and post-filing procedures

The difference among various types of retainer and that Client has made the choice identified in Paragraph 4

A Chapter 13 plan will be submitted to the Court in good faith. The plan payment may have to increase if creditor claims come in higher than scheduled, creditors successfully argue that they are entitled to a higher interest rate, the Trustee successfully argues that the budgeted income is lower than actual income, the Trustee successfully argues that budgeted expenses are unreasonably high or the Court makes a finding that the plan is not the best effort you can make to repay your creditors.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. Any delay on Client's part may disqualify Client for the type of relief elected or otherwise adversely affect Client's case. Attorney may not be able to file the case, or take other necessary actions, until all requested documents and/or information, including but not limited to a certificate of credit counseling, are received by Attorney Other (specify):

Client understands that the advice given during the initial consultation is preliminary and based on the information available at the time, and may change as the case is further analyzed, more facts discovered, or Client's circumstances or the law changed.

- 6. Client's Duties. Client agrees, during the course of representation, to:
- provide Attorney with full, accurate and timely information, financial and otherwise;
- follow Attorney's procedures and cooperate with Attorney in providing requested documents and information;
- promptly inform Attorney of any change of address, phone number, e-mail address or employment, or activation of military duty;
- (d) inform Attorney before buying, selling, refinancing or transferring any real property in which Client has any interest, and before incurring any new debt, including but not limited to applying for an auto loan, personal loan, payday loan or title loan, applying for a credit card or line of credit, or using an existing credit card or line of credit; and
- (e) promptly inform Attorney if Client becomes entitled to an inheritance, an asset as a result of a property settlement agreement with Client's spouse or a divorce decree, life insurance proceeds, or a monetary judgment, award or settlement.
- 7. Co-counsel. Client understands that more than one attorney may work on this case. Where necessary, Client agrees to employ outside counsel, at Attorney's expense, to work on this case, including: Kathleen W. Vaught, Kelly M. Johnson, David Carter, or Christina Banyon.
- 8. Termination. Client may discharge Attorney at any time, subject to payment of any fee owed for the services already rendered. Attorney may terminate the representation as permitted by the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct and Local Bankruptcy Rules. Any flat fee for a bankruptcy case is advance payment for future services, becomes Attorney's property upon receipt, and is nonrefundable upon filing of the petition. In the event the representation is terminated by either party before filing and Client has paid Attorney more than \$300, Attorney will provide Client with a detailed itemization of the services rendered in support of any fee charged at the rate set forth in Paragraph 4, and Client will reimburse Attorney for any expenses, including those that otherwise would be free of charge, and authorizes Attorney to apply the filing fee and any payment for expenses that have not been incurred towards the attorney's fee, subject to the requirements set forth herein

		The state of the s	am officing	SCL 101	m nereni.	1
X _ X \	X		Date:	4	1111	1 200
Attorney Signature:	23	ARDC# 62/63/3	_ ~	l	' for	1 /0 9
		- 				

BILLBUSTERS

Ledford, Wu and Borges, LLC

105 W. Madison, 23rd Floor, Chicago, IL 60602 (312)853-0200 Fax: (312)873-4693

CONSULTATION AGREEMENT

	FOR O	20 (M)	USE:	
	No 6	The state of the s		
No.	and the grade of the second contract of	of a little of the co	y Az	
		A LONG THE STATE OF THE STATE O	والمواجعة والمعارض والمجارعة وأوا	
Date:	7/2	+12	016	

THIS AGREEMENT IS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW (11 U.S.C. § 528(a))

- 1. Parties: In this contract, "Client" means the undersigned, both individually and jointly; "Attorney" means the law firm of Ledford, Wu & Borges, LLC and its staff attorneys.
- 2. Purpose: Client has requested the opportunity to consult with and obtain information and advice from Attorney concerning options for relief from debts, which may include filing bankruptcy. This agreement is for purposes of that consultation only.
- 3. Client's Duties: In order for Attorney to give meaningful advice, Client agrees to give accurate, honest, full and fair disclosure of financial information concerning income over the past three years from all sources, monthly living expenses, the type and amount of all debts (including names and addresses of all creditors), all assets and property owned by the client, wherever located and by whomever held, and any additional information determined by Attorney to be relevant.
- 4. Services: The attorney agrees to provide Client with the following services:
 - analyzing Client's financial circumstances based on information provided by Client;
 - b. to the extent possible, advising Client of bankruptcy options and non-bankruptcy options based on the information provided by Client;
 - c. if Client has not provided Attorney with sufficient information upon which to fully advise Client on Client's options, informing Client what additional information Client needs to provide in order to enable Attorney to provide such advice and information;
 - d. where applicable, advising Client of the requirements placed upon Client to file a bankruptcy; and
 - to the extent possible quoting a fee for providing hard-

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e to and
1

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AGREEMENT BETWEEN CHAPTER 13 DEBTORS AND THEIR ATTORNEYS

(Court-Approved Retention Agreement, revised as of March 15, 2011)

Chapter 13 gives debtors important rights, such as the right to keep property that could otherwise be lost through repossession or foreclosure—but Chapter 13 also puts burdens on debtors, such as the burden of making complete and truthful disclosures of their financial situation. It is important for debtors who file a Chapter 13 bankruptcy case to understand their rights and responsibilities in bankruptcy. In this connection, the advice of an attorney is often crucial. Debtors are entitled to certain services from by their attorneys, but debtors also have responsibilities to their attorneys. In order to assure that debtors and their attorneys understand their rights and responsibilities in the Chapter 13 process, the judges of the Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois have approved the following agreement, setting out the rights and responsibilities of both debtors in Chapter 13 and their attorneys. By signing this agreement, debtors and their attorneys accept these responsibilities.

BEFORE THE CASE IS FILED

THE DEBTOR AGREES TO:

- 1. Discuss with the attorney the debtor's objectives in filing the case.
- 2. Provide the attorney with full, accurate and timely information, financial and otherwise, including properly documented proof of income.

THE ATTORNEY AGREES TO:

- 1. Personally counsel the debtor regarding the advisability of filing either a Chapter 13 or a Chapter 7 case, discuss both procedures (as well as non-bankruptcy options) with the debtor, and answer the debtor's questions.
- 2. Personally explain to the debtor that the attorney is being engaged to represent the debtor on all matters arising in the case, as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule and explain how and when the attorney's fees and the trustee's fees are determined and paid.
- 3. Personally review with the debtor and sign the completed petition, plan, statements, and schedules, as well as all amendments thereto, whether filed with the petition or later. (The schedules may be initially prepared with the help of clerical or paralegal staff of the attorney's office, but personal attention of the attorney is required for the review and signing.)
- 4. Timely prepare and file the debtor's petition, plan, statements, and schedules.
- 5. Explain to the debtor how, when, and where to make all necessary payments, including both payments that must be made directly to creditors and payments that must be made to the Chapter 13 trustee, with particular attention to housing and vehicle payments.

6. Advise the debtor of the need to maintain appropriate insurance.

AFTER THE CASE IS FILED

THE DEBTOR AGREES TO:

- 1. Make the required payments to the trustee and to whatever creditors are being paid directly, or, if required payments cannot be made, to notify the attorney immediately.
- 2. Appear punctually at the meeting of creditors (also called the "341 meeting") with recent proof of income and a picture identification card. (If the identification card does not include the debtor's social security number, the debtor will also bring to the meeting a social security card.) The debtor must be present in time for check-in and when the case is called for the actual examination.
- 3. Notify the attorney of any change in the debtor's address or telephone number.
- 4. Inform the attorney of any wage garnishments or liens or levies on assets that occur or continue after the filing of the case.
- 5. Contact the attorney immediately if the debtor loses employment, has a significant change in income, or experiences any other significant change in financial situation (such as serious illness, marriage, divorce or separation, lottery winnings, or an inheritance).
- 6. Notify the attorney if the debtor is sued or wishes to file a lawsuit (including divorce).
- 7. Inform the attorney if any tax refunds to which the debtor is entitled are seized or not received when due from the IRS or Illinois Department of Revenue.
- 8. Contact the attorney before buying, refinancing, or selling real property, and before entering into any loan agreement.
- 9. Supply the attorney with copies of all tax returns filed while the case is pending.

THE ATTORNEY AGREES TO:

- 1. Advise the debtor of the requirement to attend the meeting of creditors, and notify the debtor of the date, time, and place of the meeting.
- 2. Inform the debtor that the debtor must be punctual and, in the case of a joint filing, that both spouses must appear at the same meeting.
- 3. Provide knowledgeable legal representation for the debtor at the meeting of creditors (in time for check-in and the actual examination) and, unless excused by the trustee, for the confirmation hearing.

- 4. If the attorney will be employing another attorney to attend the 341 meeting or any court hearing, personally explain to the debtor in advance, the role and identity of the other attorney and provide the other attorney with the file in sufficient time to review it and properly represent the debtor.
- 5. Timely submit to the Chapter 13 trustee properly documented proof of income for the debtor, including business reports for self-employed debtors.
- 6. Timely respond to objections to plan confirmation and, where necessary, prepare, file, and serve an amended plan.
- 7. Timely prepare, file, and serve any necessary statements, amended statements and schedules and any change of address, in accordance with information provided by the debtor.
- 8. Monitor all incoming case information (including, but not limited to, Order Confirming Plan, Notice of Intent to Pay Claims, and 6-month status reports) for accuracy and com-pleteness. Contact the trustee promptly regarding any discrepancies.
- 9. Be available to respond to the debtor's questions throughout the term of the plan.
- 10. Prepare, file, and serve timely modifications to the plan after confirmation, when necessary, including modifications to suspend, lower, or increase plan payments.
- 11. Prepare, file, and serve necessary motions to buy or sell property and to incur debt.
- 12. Object to improper or invalid claims.
- 13. Timely respond to the Chapter 13 trustee's motions to dismiss the case, such as for payment default, or unfeasibility, and to motions to increase the percentage payment to unsecured creditors.
- 14. Timely respond to motions for relief from stay.
- 15. Prepare, file, and serve all appropriate motions to avoid liens.
- 16. Provide any other legal services necessary for the administration of the case.

ALLOWANCE AND PAYMENT OF ATTORNEYS' FEES

1. Any attorney retained to represent a debtor in a Chapter 13 case is responsible for representing the debtor on all matters arising in the case unless otherwise ordered by the court. For all of the services outlined above, the attorney will be paid a fee of

\$4,000.00 .

Prior to signing this agreement the attorney has received \$, leaving a balance due of \$. In extraordinary circumstances, such as extended evidentiary hearings or appeals, the attorney may apply to the court for additional compensation for these services. Any such application must be accompanied by an itemization of the services rendered, showing the date, the time expended, and the identity of the attorney performing the services. The debtor must be served with a copy of the application and notified of the right to appear in court to object.

- 2. Early termination of the case. Fees payable under the provisions set out above are not refundable in the event that the case is dismissed, unless the dismissal is due to a failure by the attorney to comply with the duties set out in this agreement. If a dismissal is due to such a failure by the attorney, the court may order a refund of fees on motion by the debtor.
- 3. Retainers. The attorney may receive a retainer or other payment before filing the case, but may not receive fees directly from the debtor after the filing of the case. Unless the following provision is checked and completed, any retainer received by the attorney will be treated as a security retainer, to be placed in the attorney's client trust account until approval of a fee application by the court.

Any retainer received by the attorney will be treated as an advance payment, allowing the attorney to take the retainer into income immediately. The reason for this treatment is the following:

In any application for fees, whether or not requiring an itemization, the attorney shall disclose to the court any fees paid by the debtor prior to the case filing.

- 4. Improper conduct by the attorney. If the debtor disputes the sufficiency or quality of the legal services provided or the amount of the fees charged by the attorney, the debtor may file an objection with the court and request a hearing.
- 5. Improper conduct by the debtor. If the attorney believes that the debtor is not complying with the debtor's responsibilities under this agreement or is otherwise not engaging in proper conduct, the attorney may apply for a court order allowing the attorney to withdraw from the case.
- 6. Discharge of the attorney. The debtor may discharge the attorney at any time.

Date: _

Signed:

Attorney for Debtor(s)

Debtor(s)

Do not sign if the fee amounts at top of this page are blank.

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Choice Recovery 1550 Old Henderson Rd St Columbus, OH 43220

Credit One Bank Na Po Box 98873 Las Vegas, NV 89193

Custom Coll Srvs Inc Ccsi/Attn Bankruptcy Po Box 10428 Merrillville, IN 46411

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Internal Revenue Serivce P.O. Box 7346 Philadelphia, PA 19101-7346

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